

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Cultural Arts Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 21, 2011 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Shwartz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Bunting, Korman, Miranda, Rische, Shwartz, and Vice-Chairperson Candiotti.

Absent: Chairperson Endo-Roberts.

Also Present: Cultural Services Manager Rappoport and Cultural Services Senior Supervisor Bell.

Due to the absence of Chairperson Endo-Roberts, Vice-Chairperson Candiotti led the meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Rische moved to grant Chairperson Endo-Roberts an excused absence for the March 21, 2011 Commission meeting. Commissioner Korman seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Miranda moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Korman seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2010

MOTION: Commissioner Korman moved for the approval of the February 15, 2011 Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Miranda seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Chairperson Endo-Roberts).

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

None.

7. INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

7A. SYMBIOSIS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Joo Lee, representing Symbiosis Chamber Orchestra, distributed the Mission Statement, concert programs, and concert dates held at the First Lutheran Church and School, West Carson Street. She stated that the Orchestra has had 12 concerts since its formation in June 2010, that there are 20 to 30 members, and that ages range from early 20s to early 30s. She explained that she is doing outreach to familiarize people with the Orchestra and to increase audience members at their free monthly concerts.

Commissioners shared information about the Grants Program, Excellence in Arts awards, and Arts Council of Torrance, and suggested promoting the Orchestra in the City's Event Calendar, Farmers' Market, and Torrance Tribune.

7B. FLAG STOP

Bernard Fallon, representing a committee of local artists called Flag Stop, presented their objective to create a new, contemporary three-day art event in September 2011 in Torrance. He asked for the Commission's support in finding existing venues and contacts for an exhibit of all types of artwork as well as sponsorship and grant opportunities. He stated that they have found some small spaces for exhibits but that they need a larger, secure venue in a warehouse or outside with the use of pods.

In response to Commissioner Bunting's inquiry, Manager Rappoport stated that Curator Presneill from Torrance Art Museum has been mentoring and assisting Flag Stop, but that the Museum is not in a position to support them financially.

Commissioners and staff recommended contacting the gallery at El Camino College, Chen Art Gallery, Toyota Car Museum, Manhattan Beach Art Center, vacancies at Del Amo Mall, Torrance Symphony at Wilson Park, Seaside Heroes Park, and the Redevelopment Agency.

Commissioner Bunting cautioned him to avoid the weekend after Labor Day as many commercial galleries have their openings then.

8. ON-GOING BUSINESS

8A. UPDATE ON COMMUNITY ART GRANT PROGRAM

Manager Rappoport noted that current guidelines, list of previous awardees, and application were included in agenda packets. She reported that \$5,000 is available and the due date for grant applications will be extended to early May 2011.

8B. FOLLOW-UP AFTER JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL

Commissioners commented that Mayor Scotto and Councilmembers were positive and receptive, and that they hope to make joint meetings an annual event.

9. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

9A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS COMMITTEE

No report. Will be placed on the April 18, 2011 agenda.

9B. FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Has not met.

Commissioner Candioly expressed concern about the lack of signage at Lomita Boulevard and Anza Avenue for Seaside Heroes Park as well as kids walking through the planters.

9C. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Manager Rappoport reported that the Committee will meet after applications are received.

10. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

10A. Manager Rappoport noted that the Cultural Services Division Report for January and February 2011 was included in agenda packets. She announced that Torrance Civic Chorale will be celebrating their 50th anniversary with "As Time Goes By" on April 9, 2011 at the Armstrong Theatre.

10B. Manager Rappoport reported that the City is starting to look at the next two-year budget cycle and that the Finance Director presented projections of a \$3 million shortfall on March 15, 2011.

10C. Manager Rappoport distributed announcements for the next Torrance Art Museum exhibition "Gateway: Japan" from March 26 through April 20, 2011. She noted that the artists are planning to raise funds for the Japanese Red Cross.

11. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

11A. Commissioner Korman shared information about the Foundation's Mystery Dinner, the Arts Council of Torrance fundraiser at El Paso Cantina, Torrance Symphony "March Musical Madness" on March 19, and the Los Cancioneros concert on March 20.

11B. Commissioner Rische stated that she has been enjoying the Works in Progress series on the Pentagon Papers and that the Torrance Symphony concert was wonderful.

11C. Commissioner Miranda discussed his trip to New York City where he saw "Memphis," "Rain," "Jersey Boys," the Guggenheim Museum, and Metropolitan Museum of Art.

11D. Commissioner Shwartz volunteered to serve on the Youth Council's Beat the Odds Scholarship selection committee on April 7, 2011.

11E. Commissioner Shwartz stated that she enjoyed Jane Fonda in “33 Variations,” that she is looking forward to being a judge for the Arts Council of Torrance, and discussed her nephew’s study in pediatrics in Mozambique.

11F. Commissioner Bunting stated that she enjoyed the TAM exhibition “What’s New, Pussycat?” and an opening show at Museum of Contemporary Art. She announced her new position as archivist at Blum and Poe Art Gallery.

11G. Commissioner Candiotti stated that he had the opportunity to attend the TAM exhibition “What’s New, Pussycat?” and shared information about a competition at Fusion Studios on Palos Verdes Boulevard on March 13, 2011.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:17 p.m., Commissioner Miranda moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, April 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall. Commissioner Bunting seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Vice-Chairperson Candiotti so ordered.

Approved as Submitted May 16, 2011 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
